

Message Text

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TAGS: SCUL/CVIS

SUBJECT: SUMMER STUDENT TRAVEL/WORK EXCHANGE PROGRAM

FOR: CU/WE

REF: A) LONDON 11874 B) STATE 200337

1. AFTER FURTHER STUDY SUBJECT PROGRAM, POST FULLY
CONVINCED ITS CONTINUATION OF GREAT IMPORTANCE
UNIVERSITY-RELATED OBJECTIVES IN UK FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

2. BRITISH UNIVERSITIES NORTH AMERICA CLUB (BUNAC),
WHICH ADMINISTERS SUBJECT PROGRAM, IS UMBRELLA
ORGANIZATION CO-ORDINATING ACTIVITIES 63 LOCAL NORTH
AMERICA CLUBS (NACS) WITH 6,000 MEMBERS ON UNIVERSITY
CAMPUSES. NACS ARE ONLY RPT ONLY UK STUDENT
ORGANIZATION BINATIONALLY ORIENTED TO US. MANY LOCAL
NACS ARE QUITE ACTIVE IN PROGRAMMING FILMS, SPEAKERS,
DISCUSSIONS ON ATLANTIC RELATIONS, AND ARE FREQUENTLY
CHANNELS USG MATERIALS. HOWEVER, STUDENTS' INITIAL
MOTIVATIONS JOIN NACS IS CHANCE PARTICIPATE SUMMER WORK/
TRAVEL PROGRAM. CONSENSUS HERE IS THAT, IF SUBJECT
PROGRAM ABOLISHED OR SEVERELY LIMITED, ENTIRE NAC
NETWORK WOULD CEASE TO EXIST. POST WOULD CONSIDER THIS
SERIOUS LOSS IMPORTANT CHANNEL COMMUNICATION WITH KEY
TARGET UNIVERSITY AUDIENCES. ALSO FEAR OUR RELATIONS
OTHER IMPORTANT STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS (E.G. NATIONAL
UNION OF STUDENTS) THAT NOW WORK CLOSELY WITH BUNAC
WOULD BE IMPAIRED. THIS MAJOR PROBLEM BECAUSE POST GIVES
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HIGH PRIORITY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND ALL PROGRAMS

AIMED AT THEM. SUCCESS SUCH PROGRAMS HEAVILY DEPENDENT
ACTIVE CO-OPERATION WIDE VARIETY STUDENT AND UNIVERSITY
ORGANIZATIONS.

3. SUBJECT PROGRAM HAS STRONG SUPPORT INFLUENTIAL
PARLIAMENTARIANS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT UK GROUPS WHO
ARE PRIMARY TARGETS OUR PROGRAMMING. WITHOUT
EXAGGERATING DANGER, WE BELIEVE ABOLITION
THIS PROGRAM COULD HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES WELL
BEYOND STUDENT/UNIVERSITY SCENE.

4. ALSO BELIEVE SUBJECT PROGRAM PLAYS IMPORTANT ROLE
TOURISM PROMOTION. BUNAC'S CAREFUL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
GUIDELINES AND THOROUGH BRIEFING OF PARTICIPANTS
ENSURES SUCCESSFUL VISIT. BUNAC QUESTIONNAIRE INDICATES
HIGH PROPORTION PARTICIPANTS PLAN TRAVEL US AGAIN AS
SOON AS THEIR RESOURCES PERMIT. DEMONSTRATION EFFECT
FOR FAMILIES, FRIENDS, NOT MEASURABLE BUT BELIEVED
SUBSTANTIAL.

5. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, BUNAC NOW CARRYING ON
DISCUSSIONS UKG HOME OFFICE, OTHER OFFICIAL AGENCIES IN
EFFORT IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR AMERICAN SUMMER TRAVEL/WORK
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS IN UK. INCREASED AMERICAN
PARTICIPATION WILL TEND SET-OFF STUDENTS OCCUPYING
SUMMER JOBS US.

6. FINALLY, WISH AGAIN EMPHASIZE COST-EFFECTIVENESS
AND HIGH QUALITY BUNAC PROGRAM. REMARKABLY HIGH
PROPORTION RETURNEES HAVE RECEIVED FAVORABLE IMPRESSION
US AND DISPLAY FAR BETTER UNDERSTANDING US SOCIETY AND
PROBLEMS THAN MOST VISITORS. POST BELIEVES ABOLITION
SUBJECT PROGRAM WOULD REQUIRE, IN FAIRLY SHORT RUN,
INCREASED EFFORTS OVERCOME CHARACTERISTIC UK
MISCONCEPTIONS AND NEGATIVE ATTITUDES AMONG
KEY GROUPS.

7. WILL APPRECIATE DEPARTMENTS ADVISING POST AS SOON
AS DECISION MADE.

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